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12 October 1967

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Director of Foreign Intelligence  
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff  
for Intelligence  
Department of the Army

**SUBJECT:** Geographic Specialist Teams

1. For many years, data contained in Geographic Specialist Team reports have been used in the preparation of basic intelligence for the National Intelligence Survey (NIS). These Team reports have covered such subjects as coasts and landing beaches, weather and climate, urban areas, railroads, highways, inland waterways, ports and naval facilities, civil air, and telecommunications. All of these are major topics of treatment in the NIS Program.

2. The NIS Program was established pursuant to National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 5 which provides that basic intelligence shall be compiled and continuously maintained in the NIS to cover foreign countries, areas, or broad special subjects as required in the interest of national security. United States Intelligence Board Memorandum USIB-D-51.1/3 of 28 August 1963 reaffirmed the requirement of this program of basic intelligence.

3. Production for the NIS Program requires the continuation of an overall collection effort, and the Geographic Teams effectively have served this requirement. As chairman of the NIS Committee, which assists the USIB in carrying out the responsibilities for the NIS Program, I am interested in obtaining the best data possible for use by NIS contributors. This applies directly to [REDACTED] which information essential to the NIS is needed.

4. CIA's Office of Basic and Geographic Intelligence also produces for use within CIA and by the intelligence community tailored geographic reports and memorandums. Geographic Team reports have proved to be a valuable source of information for these research projects. It is regrettable that the type of work done by the

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Geographic Teams was not completed [REDACTED] to use the information during the current insurgency crisis. The data, had it been available, would have saved countless manhours. Substandard data are being used to meet essential requirements. The potential for continuing insurgency in [REDACTED] and neighboring countries makes it mandatory that every effort be made to correct our gaps in information in order that prompt and effective support be given to U. S. Government [REDACTED] operational plans to counter insurgency and subversion. 25X1C

JAMES A. BRAMMELL  
Director  
Basic and Geographic Intelligence

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